Approved for Release: 2025/04/23 C01311217
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F-2006-00902

David Christopher Lewis
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April 11, 2006

Central Intelligence Agency
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Washington, D.C. 20505

Subject: Request for information on foreign national

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Ph.D. student in International Relations at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. I am attempting to do my "due diligence" in vetting the credentials claimed by one of the interview subjects for my dissertation.

The individual whom I need information about is an Iraqi national. His name is Georges Sada. He indicates to me that he was a general in the Iraqi Air Force under Saddam Hussein, and held the second-highest position in that branch of the Iraqi military. He further states that he was a member of Saddam's "inner circle."

I only need whatever information – even so much as a letter confirming, denying, or refusing to comment upon – relates to confirming these credentials. Inasmuch as my dissertation is expected to make a significant contribution to the body of scholarly knowledge, I must do my best to ensure that the people I speak with are, in fact, who they claim to be. Accordingly, any information that you can provide in this regard would be greatly appreciated. It is my understanding that there are no fees for up to 100 pages of research for academic researchers. Therefore, please do not send any information above that limit. In fact, it would be most helpful to me if the volume of materials related to my request was kept to the bare minimum required for vetting Mr. Sada.

Even if you are unable to confirm, deny, or otherwise comment upon this person's background, please respond to me in writing at your earliest convenience so that I can document to my dissertation committee that I at least tried to vet Mr. Sada with the proper authorities.

Thank you for your time.

With Kindest Regards,

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Chris Lewis

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